

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

5 July 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: June 30, 2005

Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified from northern Pinellas to northern Lee County. Patchy moderate impacts are possible in Pinellas, Manatee, and northern Sarasota Counties in bayside vicinities and along coastal beaches through Thursday. Patchy low impacts possible from middle Sarasota County to northern Lee County through Thursday. Dead fish have been reported in the past few days from central Pinellas County to southern Manatee County.

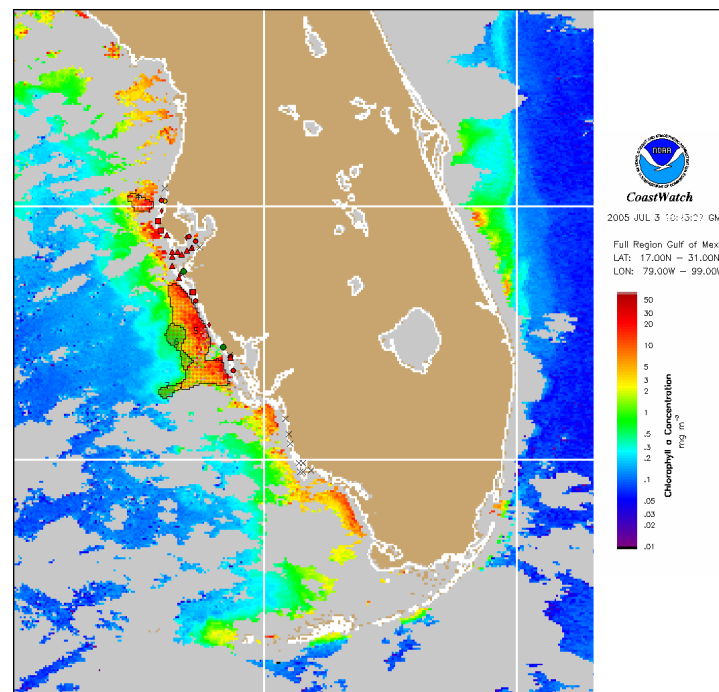
Analysis: The bloom persists in bays and along the coast from Northern Pinellas County to Northern Lee County. It has expanded to the north and south since the last clear satellite image, as well as offshore, and now extends from approximately 28°9'N 82°51'W to 26°34'N 82°15'W along its north/south axis. The bloom is in patches along the coast. Chlorophyll concentrations are greater than 5 µg/L throughout most of Pinellas County, with a maximum of nearly 20 µg/L at 27°43'N 82°52'W near Redington Pier. High cell counts were reported June 27-30 in this area, at Indian Rocks Beach and Redington Pier, with low and very low cell counts north to Honeymoon Island. Medium cell counts have been reported from St. Petersburg Beach to Longboat Key. Fish kills have been reported from Clearwater to Longboat Key, as well as some respiratory irritation. Low to medium cell counts have been reported in Tampa Bay, and dead fish have been reported as far north as the Howard Franklin Bridge. High concentrations of *Karenia brevis* have also been reported at New Pass. Chlorophyll concentrations are >5 µg/L along the coast from Venice to Gasparilla Island, which had low to medium cell counts last week. A patch of high chlorophyll (~13 µg/L) is visible at Boca Grande. Offshore sampling is recommended. Forecasted light and variable winds will likely maintain the bloom's current location and presence of dead fish over the next few

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

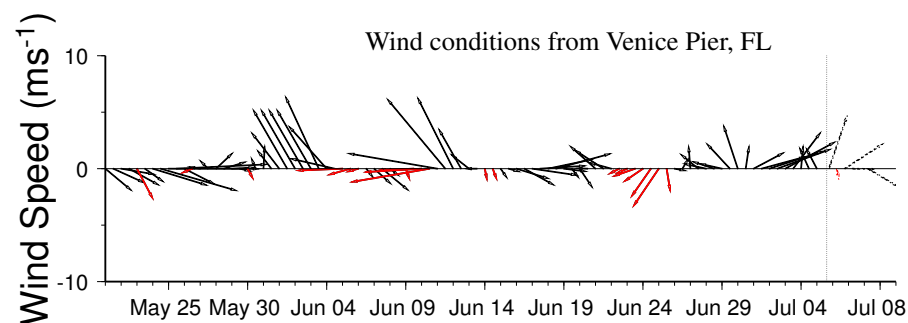
1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Distribution for military, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

days; intensification unlikely.

-Stolz, Fenstermacher, Fisher

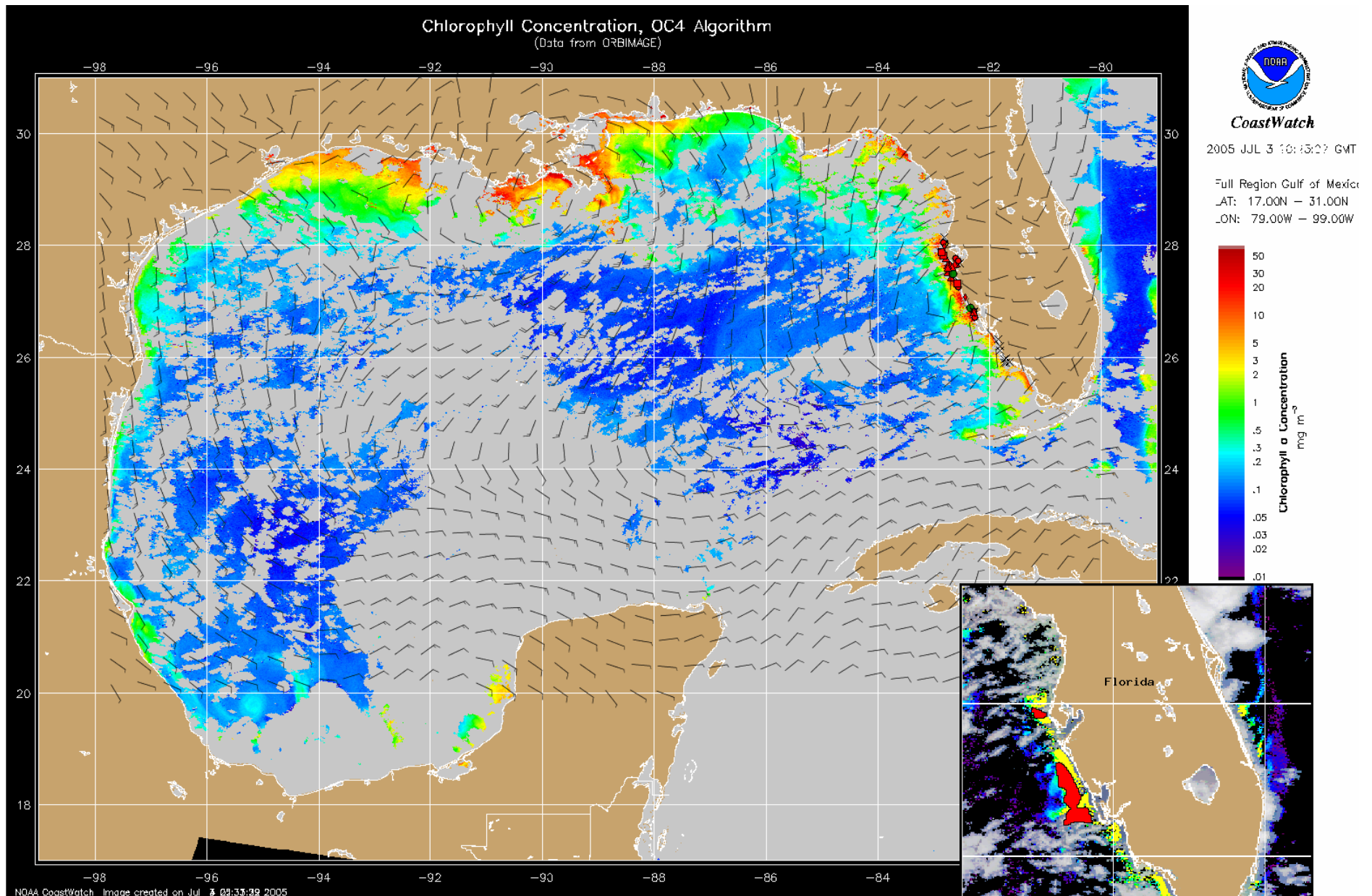


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from June 30, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Southeasterly winds today at 5-10 knots (3-5 m/s) becoming westerly late this afternoon. Winds light and variable tonight through Wednesday. Southerly winds Thursday clocking around to the northwest in the afternoon, and north by Thursday night.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for July 6, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from June 30, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis)

Wind conditions from Egmont Key, FL

